(b) and (c) During the meeting of Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh with President Musharraf in Havana on 16 September 2006, it was decided to institutionalise the anti-terrorism mechanism between the two countries by identifying and implementing counter-terrorism initiatives and investigations. During the Foreign Secretary talks in November 2006 in New Delhi, both sides agreed to set up a 3-member anti-terrorism mechanism. The Joint-Anti Terrorism Mechanism met on 6 March 2007 in Islamabad.

Funds under Peace Building Commission

1071. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have pledged $2 million for peace fund under the Peace Building Commission at the U.N.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status thereof; and

(c) the role Government are playing in U.N. presently?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Yes. India has contributed US $2 million to the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) set up under the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) established by the United Nations in December 2005 as an intergovernmental advisory body to help countries in the process of post-conflict peacebuilding, recovery, reconstruction and development. PBF was launched on October 11,2006 and has an overall target of $250 million to be raised through voluntary contributions. So far, PBF has received US $84 million.

(c) India is a member of the Organisational Committee of the PBC under the category of the top five providers of military personnel and civilian police to the UN peacekeeping operations. Besides continuing its active contribution to the UN peacekeeping operations, India also attaches high importance to the issues related to peacebuilding, on which the PBC will be rendering advice and assistance at the request of prospective receipient countries. India constructively and actively engages in its deliberations to further its objectives.